

CAMBRIDGE ARTS COUNCIL

MEETING: January 12, 2010, 6PM

Begin: 6:15 PM

End: 7:40 PM

MINUTES: The minutes were reviewed and a motion to approve (Matt) was seconded (Barbara) and unanimously approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Jason discussed the working sheets and process for the FY2011 Budget of the Cambridge Arts Council as part of the Department of Public Celebration. Major departmental accomplishments included the first full year of the Poet Populist Program; the collaboration with city departments and the community to develop site-responsive public art projects across Cambridge; the 31st Cambridge River Festival; the second year of *First Monday @CAC Gallery*, the second year of Cambridge Open Studios; the distribution of \$51,000 to artists and cultural organizations and Pass Grants for students via the CAC Grant Program; the production of the 18th season of Summer in the City with free performances for youth in public spaces throughout the city; a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts to fund the Public Art Youth Council (PAYC); workshops and events related to the City's public art works; the further development of the department website and information databases; and the collaboration and/or sponsorship of various citywide arts events. In discussing this information, he reminded members that the primary goal of CAC is to nurture the arts broadly in Cambridge and ensure that the arts play an important and active role in the daily life of residents, workers and visitors in the city.

Jason also showed the Council a copy of the new Cambridge Arts Council letterhead, listing the members of the Cambridge Arts Council (also referred to as the Advisory Board of the Cambridge Arts Council), the Public Art Commission, the Trustees of the CAC Fund, Inc., and the Executive Director.

Jason showed slides of Phyllis' lovely photographs of the *Filament/Firmament* installation by Ellen Driscoll at the new Cambridge Public Library Main Branch. The group agreed that the new images of the project elements including, etched glass and woven cable did an exemplary job of capturing the artwork and the intentions to honor the contributions of women to civic life.

OTHER BUSINESS: On February 1, 2010, *First Monday@CAC Gallery* will open a preview exhibition for the Cambridge Open Studios (COS) featuring 100 artworks by Cambridge artists. 138 artists are already registered in SlideRoom, a user friendly digital infrastructure that provides an information database that might in the future include musicians and performers as well as artists.

Jason and Matt further illustrated how SlideRoom was instrumental in the selection of finalists for the new Public Art Commission on Cambridge Street by allowing judges to remotely evaluate hundreds of artists whose information is located in the digital database based on their prior work. This work allowed the jury to work far more efficiently in identifying finalists for the project when they came to the office to work together as the official jury for the project.

Finally, Jason showed the digitalized Public Art Tour on the CAC website before Aliyah moved that the meeting be brought to a close.

Members Present: Rosanna Yamagiwa Alfaro, Barbara Baker, Phyllis Bretholtz, Lori Damon, Aliyah Gary, Matthew Weinberg. Staff: Jason Weeks, Executive Director

Members Absent: Lori Lander, James Lawson, Andrew Mroczek, Charles Norris, Jeffrey Walker